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ENVELOPE SERIES

(QUARTERLY)

VOL. XII

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No. 3

DAYBREAK IN TURKEY

A NEW STUDY PLAN

WITH FOUR PROGRAMS



BY BREWER EDDY

American Board of Commissioners
for Foreign Missions, Boston, Mass.

Annual Subscription, Ten Cents

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FOREWORD.

This number of the Envelope Series presents a budget of new plans for our missionary work this fall and winter. They are not meant for young people only. Pastors will see the opportunity for a course of four programs, somewhat out of the usual line, for the prayer meeting. Give the scheme a careful reading, noting the novelties that will attract interest.

A special edition with decorative cover has been prepared for committees who will "work the plan."

How many hundred societies, classes and prayer meetings will fall into line for this united course of work? Perhaps you are the very one to start the ball rolling.

A CONGREGATIONAL STUDY COURSE

BY BREWER EDDY

Educational Secretary

Congregationalists, young and old, studying unitedly our own most important mission field: that is the vision and the purpose of this pamphlet, for there is strength in a united effort, shared perhaps by thousands in our young people's organizations, our church prayer meetings and in our Sunday-schools. In briefest outline the plan includes the following features:

1. *A Reading Circle* (introduced by a novel scheme) based on the new edition of Dr. Barton's book, "Daybreak in Turkey." All the members to read "the chapter a day" at home.

2. *A Series of Four Programs* with the reading as a background, introducing much outside material and including in each program one or more popular features sure to stir interest.

3. An attractive method of having "*Your Own Work*" on the foreign field, upholding the Apportionment Plan of benevolence, enlisting the largest degree of personal interest, and bringing our young people to the relief of the present crisis in Turkey.

The Educational Department of the Board sends out this suggestion, earnestly hoping that hundreds of societies and perhaps a larger number of prayer meetings will adopt this plan. Send to us for the material and devote such time as is set aside for missionary work to this systematic, concrete, united study.

The Occasion.

The Turkish empire has been under the lime light of public interest for a year past. Columns in the newspapers are devoted to daily accounts of its problems and new possibilities. We do well to coin this present excitement into programs and reading courses to stimulate our missionary zeal. Our board has a peculiarly privileged position in that empire. With the exception of a few strong educational centers, we are alone in our spiritual leadership. Here we have made our greatest investment of men and money. One-third of our missionary force and one-third of our annual budget are devoted to the uplift of Turkey. For ninety years, we have sown seed, but now the day of harvest is at hand. Our churches must the more keenly appreciate our place of leadership if they come to know the devotion of our past and the challenge of our future in the Turkish empire.

A second fact emphasizes the timeliness of the topic. The union courses for study issued by the Young People's Missionary Movement are this year turned to countries in which we have no work—to Korea and South America. It seems almost providential that we are thus compelled to turn our concentrated attention to topics of our own choosing at the moment when this our greatest mission field has forced itself upon our thought. At a later time, we will again unite with all denominations in union studies, but this fall, we will gather as a single family about our study lamp.

It is possible also that many pastors are now searching for a plan to engage the interest of young people, not organized for any definite work. Draw them together for the reading course and for these programs. Study classes will grow out of this fertile soil.

Who Will Study Turkey?

THE YOUNG PEOPLE. There is great need in our young people's organizations for plans that will offer definite lines of effort to missionary committees. These are often inexperienced because of the changing of their members from year to year. This plan will direct the entire work of the committee along its three great lines of activity. It supplies a brand new method of mission study with a maximum of result to repay the minimum of energy. It includes four missionary programs to focus the interest of the reading, and at the same time to awaken every member to the crisis facing us in Turkey. It also provides an attractive method of raising your missionary budget and of helping your church to meet its apportionment.

THE PRAYER MEETING. The writer having been a pastor, has proved in his own experience the wisdom of introducing definite courses of mission study in his weekly prayer meeting. The suggestion is therefore made with assurance that every feature of this plan will be found to answer a definite need of the pastor. The young people can be asked to co-operate by increasing the attendance at the prayer meeting and by working up the topics assigned in the programs. The pastor's address can cover one or more of the assigned topics, but he can call for the participation of two or three members and can employ every one of the novel suggestions to break up the routine of the ordinary prayer meeting, and to introduce popular features. It is earnestly hoped therefore that this same reading circle afterwards explained in detail, should be proposed to the members of the prayer meeting, and that while they are reading in their own homes, that these four programs be presented in a consecutive series lasting one month.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL. Mission study has made greater strides in the Sunday-school than in any other department of church life in recent years. It is hoped that many Sunday-schools which have been looking for suggested studies will adapt these plans to their needs. Let the teachers in conference with the superintendents, plan to tell the story of selected chapters in the text book to their classes as supplemental work for ten minutes in each lesson hour. Upon one or two occasions, the school can be called together for a program selected from the four herein outlined. The map drawing, charts, flag decorations, etc., will be found especially useful in the Sunday-school work. A few schools will want to take up this course for a "Missionary Month," where different classes of the intermediate grade, under the charge of their teachers, could be asked to present parts of the program, and where the study hour could be used for outline talks by the teacher, gleaned from the text book. Suggestions in detail are not given since the plans of introducing mission study in the schools have so widely differed, but any superintendent can readily find in these pages valuable material.

THE STUDY CLASSES. Some groups will find that this course can be used to advantage at this time, looking forward to other courses made possible by the general enthusiasm awakened. If it has been difficult or impossible to start a class, this may prove to be the opening wedge. We desire to send a special letter of advice to every group thinking of beginning a class. We will recommend courses, furnish the material and help in all possible ways. "Day-break in Turkey" is now being prepared for a series of ten lessons for classes and you may wish to undertake this same topic in the longer series of studies.

I. The Reading Circle.

While the modern Study Class is the best possible method of interesting groups of persons in missions, the one great obstacle to its wider adoption is that it requires an extra session each week for people already busy and overburdened. This Reading Circle avoids that difficulty since the reading is to be done at home at odd moments of the day. It is systematic because all the members are reading the same chapter each day and they thus enjoy the spirit of team play. Perhaps thousands of others will be pursuing this same course in the very weeks when you are taking it up.

“Daybreak in Turkey” is Dr. James L. Barton’s latest book, written after a life-long knowledge and personal experience of his subject. It is by no means a superficial book for the careless reader, but a solid work for thinking people. Many may think it will be easier to carry forward the four programs without starting the Reading Circle but one will help the other and together they will awaken unusual interest. It is designed that as many members as possible will purchase the book in the paper edition (at fifty cents), but it will be quite easy for members of the same family or neighbors to share the same copy. In this case, they might prefer to read the six chapters for the week on a single day, passing the book on to the next member of the group.

Launching the Plan. To help the committee persuade the members to join the Circle and to own a copy of the text-book, the following plan is proposed. After the first half of the first program has been given, the pastor should be asked to make a strong appeal for interest and co-operation in the entire plan, dwelling on the vital timeliness of the topic, and upon the need

of education in all our missionary interests. The chairman will then outline the scheme and have the "Coupon Slips" passed. These bear three perforated coupons to be signed and torn off in the meeting. When collected, they will serve as a definite basis for the committee's work. Such a novelty at once harvests the interest aroused and makes the committee's task easy. Each coupon should be carefully explained and appeal should be made, urging each member to faithfulness in carrying out its promise. The first reads, "I will do my best as a member of the Reading Circle to read 'the chapter a day.'"

The second, "I will do my best to attend these four special programs, rain or shine, and to bring a friend."

The third points toward the last meeting with especial emphasis, "I will do my best to support my share of 'Our Own Work.'"

The portion remaining is to be retained as a book mark. Its pledge looks forward to next year when we celebrate the centennial of the American Board, and beyond that into future years of earnest service.

. At this first meeting, the number of books to be ordered should be definitely determined and the order sent at once to the Board. Where extra copies are left over, try to place them with other members of the church for they will do their part in stirring an interest in Turkey.

Some will prefer to launch this plan in a previous meeting so that the series may not be interrupted. It is even preferable because the programs can then have a momentum for extra preparation. Remember that this plan could be introduced into the Prayer Meeting also, with excellent results and that it would only need an earnest offer by the committee to persuade the pastor to enter heartily into it.

II. The Four Programs.

The most pressing question to be solved is when to introduce them: at the regular monthly missionary meeting or as a special series running for one month consecutively? The latter is most strongly urged. There is an effect gained from a cumulative series quite lost to an occasional moment of inspiration. Wherever the officers are willing it is hoped that the committee will ask that an entire month be set aside for this new scheme, giving up if necessary, all other regular missionary meetings for a time. We do not mean to rob the home missionary interests of the least of their rightful claims, but only to condense the usual foreign missionary meetings into a single concentrated effort.

The references for the various assigned topics are for the most part to the text book. In other cases, it is clearly indicated. The material used or suggested is all grouped on the closing pages of this pamphlet. Do not try to economize too closely in ordering from the Board. If a keener interest can be stirred by getting the dollar packet, it would be unwise thrift to try to "get along without it."

For the opening meeting at which you are to introduce the plan, special effort must be made to double your usual attendance, asking the pastor to give a strong notice of it at the church services, putting up posters drawn by some clever hand, reaching your doubtful members with personal invitations and thus plowing your field for seed sowing.

These programs are of course, only suggestive. If you can improve them by changes, do so. Interject questions by the speakers or leaders, seeking open discussion and frank comment.

Program 1.



Theme :— The Turkish Empire; Glimpses at Its Past, Present and Future.

Purpose :— To Grasp the Location, Extent, History and Resources of Turkey.



I. OPENING HYMNS.

II. SCRIPTURE LESSON.

A prophecy concerning a land that is now a part of Turkey. Read Isaiah XXXV. (After reading, ask who will make fulfillment possible, if we fail.)

III. ANNOUNCEMENT.

By the chairman of the missionary committee outlining the present course. Be enthusiastic. Stir their interest. Pique their curiosity.

IV. MAP EXERCISE—A Guessing Contest.

(10 minutes.)

The leader, to begin the course, has sheets of paper and pencils passed to each person and says :—

"To show how little you know, draw a map of the Turkish Empire without peeking or suggestion."

Locate with dot and initial Constantinople, Salonica, Adana, Cæsarea and Harpoot. Guess what is the total population of the Turkish Empire?

How many are Christians?

How many American Board missionaries have we there? Sign your names. The three best papers will receive honorable mention at the next meeting. Collect them sharply on time and save for future reference. This entire exercise should be conducted with snap and fun.

V. MAP EXERCISE CONTINUED. (5 minutes.)

Topic 1. The first speaker should present an outline map of Turkey, preferably drawn by himself.

Point out the size, situation, divisions into provinces and population of the Turkish Empire. (Pages 16 and 17, "Daybreak in Turkey.")

VI. "FIFTY CENTURIES IN FIFTEEN MINUTES."

Topic 2. (From 3000 B. C. to 622 A. D.) (5 min.)

Present in three minutes a briefest outline statement of the ancient, classical, Old Testament

and New Testament background of the present Turkish Empire, touching briefly Babylonia, Assyria and Alexander; name chief events in Old and New Testament, locating them on your map and ask what Biblical events can be mentioned that fall outside of the boundaries of this land. e. g. Sinim, Tarshish, Paul's journey to Rome, etc. (Pages 17-19. D. in T.)

Topic 3. (From 622 to 1900.) (5 minutes.)

Refer to the rise of Islam in Asia Minor, dwelling on the founding of the Ottoman Empire, explaining the name (Pages 31 and 41. Read chapters III and IV for background.)

Mention the accession of recent sultan, describing his misrule.

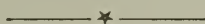
Topic 4. (From 1900 to date.) (5 minutes.)

State causes of recent discontent, rise of "Young Turk" party and revolution of July, 1908. (Chapter XXVII, 3 min.) Reaction of April, 1909 and the present status. (Chapter XXVIII, 2 min.).

VII. UNDEVELOPED RESOURCES. (5 min.)

Topic 5. Show how the resources of the empire can be developed by railroads, mines, just laws, and foreign investments.

Suggest vision of its future wealth and power when won for Christian civilization. (Chapter II.)



Where the Reading Circle is to be launched in this first meeting, the pastor and missionary chairman should take the rest of the meeting.

VIII. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR TURKEY.

(Address by the pastor, 10 minutes.)

Show that the American Board is the sole spiritual guardian of its future; the magnitude of our investments in money and institutions; the present critical needs, appealing for study, knowledge and earnest effort among young people to do "OUR SHARE."

The missionary chairman should here pass the coupon slips, and make a strong appeal for the Reading Circle. Urge every member to follow the reading of "a chapter a day." Explain appeal for attendance at the meetings, co-operation in the subscription, etc. Have coupons signed and collected after prayer.

IX. CLOSING PRAYERS

For Turkey, our missionaries, and this society's co-operation.

X. CLOSING HYMN—BENEDICTION.

Program 2.



Theme: — The Peoples and Their Possibilities.

Purpose: — To Know These Peoples Sympathetically from the Point of View of Christian Responsibility for the World.



I. OPENING HYMNS.

II. SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS.

Have four persons rise with Bibles and read these passages:

- a. Joshua 1:3 - 5.—Joshua's great promise is ours in a spiritual sense.
- b. Isaiah 43:2 - 3.—A promise for our missionaries.
- c. Matt 28:19 - 20.—"The marching orders" for every Christian.
- d. Rev. 7:9 - 10.—A vision of final triumph.

III. THE LEADER.

Tells of the ground covered in the last program, announces the three best papers in the "guessing contest," and outlines the present meeting. Show how the empire includes so many widely divergent races. Contrast with Italy or Sweden which are unified and compare with the United States. Suggest the two great divisions, but leave all details to IV and V. (Read page 51 in text book.)

IV. THE TURKS. (5 minutes.)

(A person should stand at the blackboard and list the Turkish peoples in one column and the Christian peoples in another as they are mentioned.)

Topic 1. State the exact use of the term in contrast with our popular usage, merely touching the subordinate Turkish races. Give the time to a discussion of the real Turk, his characteristics, his attitude to Christian peoples, and the new opportunities for reaching him. (Chapter VII.)

V. THE CHRISTIANS. (5 minutes.)

Mention briefly the Syrians and Greeks, dwelling on the Armenians.

Show clearly the degeneracy of Christianity in its ancient churches. (Chapters V and VI.)

VI. AN OPEN DEBATE. (10 minutes.)

(Let the speaker try to draw out independent opinions on this question and have a sharp discussion. It will be necessary, however, to ask two or three in advance to take sides so as to save the meeting from a prolonged silence.)

Topic 2.

Would you rather be a poor Christian or a good Mohammedan?

Are degenerate Christian churches fertile fields for missionaries?

Is there any danger that American Christianity will sink back into superstition so as to need missionaries from Japan or China in future centuries?

Try to prove that a great missionary awakening among our young people is the surest safe-guard of our church life and the proof of the power of Christ in the home land.

VII. SPLENDID RESULTS OF EDUCATION AMONG ARMENIANS. (10 minutes.)

Topic 3. To prove that they can be transformed by Christian education. Outline in two minutes the approach made to the Gregorian church. (Chapter XIV, XV.) Dwell on the founding of schools and colleges, and the results flowing from them. Emphasize Chapter XVII, leaving Cyrus Hamlin's life to the next topic.

VIII. A MODERN INSTANCE. (7 minutes.)

Topic 4. A brief review of the life of Cyrus Hamlin, founder of Robert College. (A pamphlet of 25 pages "Cyrus Hamlin" will be sent in quantities by the Board, for distribution at the close of this meeting. Make this story dramatic. Stop abruptly on page 22, saying, "Those who want to learn how this two weeks dragged out into ten years can learn it all from this pamphlet. Those who will read it, hold up your hands.")

IX. THE LEADER

Should drive home these last points. We all know that our schools and colleges abroad are uplifting ragged orphans and ignorant children into intelligent leadership and strong character. Your Board has 64,546 scholars throughout the world being molded for Christ. Do you believe in that sort of work?

X. CLOSING PRAYERS AND HYMN.

Program 3.



Theme:— Islam and Christianity in a Death Grapple.

**Purpose:— To Show Islam as Our Greatest Challenge on Earth,
and to Get a Clearer Picture of Our Problem in Turkey.**



I. OPENING HYMNS.

II. SCRIPTURE LESSON.

If you were going tomorrow as a missionary to Turkey, what verses would you take for inspiration? (Ask three or four in advance to respond to this question with a selected verse. e. g. I Cor. 9:24-27, 2 Tim. 1:7-8; 2 Cor. 12:9-10; I Cor. 9:16-17.)

III. THE LEADER

Will tell what struck him most forcibly in the last meeting by way of review. Announce the present theme. Introduce topic I, by stating that we now turn to the religious phase of our problem, and must know what sort of a religion we are to combat. (To prove Turkey as the heart of Islam, read pages 93-98 in D in T.)

IV. THE MARVELOUS GROWTH OF ISLAM.

(10 minutes.)

Topic 1. Describe the remarkable spread of Mohammedanism. Distribute the small outline maps, and as the story is told, let each blacken with pencil, the countries conquered for Mohammed. Where maps are not used, have a person whiten the countries on an outline map on the blackboard. When the story is completed, hold up the map and say, "There is Christianity's greatest foe. Will the Cross or the Crescent rule the Mediterranean a thousand years from now?" (Read pages 33 to 52 in Zwemer's "The Moslem World.") Do not linger over details. Sketch the movement rapidly and in a large way. Show that it is an intensely militant religion today, growing faster in Africa than we

are. King Edward rules more Mohammedans than Christians. Let the speaker suggest the figures of the five greatest Mohammedan powers from her colored chart to be filled in by the members, on their outline charts.

V. WHAT A MOHAMMEDAN MUST BELIEVE. (5 minutes.)

Topic 2. Review pages 59 - 69 in "The Moslem World," mentioning briefly the unimportant elements, contrasting the beliefs in which they differ from us, and comparing those in which they agree with us. Express your own opinion of the truth and error of Islam in a broad minded way. It will be more interesting to have a list on the blackboard of these beliefs compared in some striking way with our own.

VI. WHAT MOHAMMED HAS DONE FOR ME. (10 minutes.)

Topic 3. A dramatic monologue by a Mohammedan woman in costume. (Do not attempt this unless you have some member who can do it well.) The material will be sent on request from the Board rooms. The story is a severe arraignment of conditions in Turkey; ignorance and illiteracy, corruption and injustice, divorce and polygamy. (Can be given as an assignment by studying pages 111 - 130 in "The Moslem World.")

VII. WHAT CHRIST WANTS TO DO FOR THEM. (15 minutes.)

Topic 4. Two ways in which Christianity is helping. *a.* Present as strongly as possible the story of the printing-press and the open Bible. (Chapter XVIII in D. in T.) *b.* Modern Medicine. (Chapter XIX.)

Dwell on the fact that medical missions become self-supporting. Last year in Turkey in eight hospitals, 104,495 cases were treated with but little expense to us. Does that pay?

VIII. CLOSING SERVICE.

Program 4.



Theme: What Shall I Do About It?

Purpose: — To Deepen the Conviction of Personal Responsibility;
To Definitely Accept a Part of This Task
as "OUR OWN WORK."

(Change the entire seating for this meeting. Arrange all chairs in rows of three or four deep around a table. The leader and participants are seated about the table which is covered by a cloth by way of mystery.)



I. OPENING HYMNS.

II. SCRIPTURE LESSON.—Personal Responsibility.

- a. Parable of the talents. Matt. 25:20-23.
- b. Ezekiel 33:1-7.

III. OUR BATTLE LINE IN TURKEY.

Topic 1. On the table has been placed an outline map of Turkey in colored crayons, about three by four feet. Small flags locate the various missionaries of the Board in their stations. The flag can be made by thrusting a pin through a small bit of colored paper or a small American flag can be used. (Not over an inch high.) Keep the map covered until the dramatic moment. (Names and location of the missionaries can be secured from the American Board Almanac. See last page.) The speaker rapidly explains the division of the empire into four great missions of the American Board, pinning or pasting a red ribbon over the map to mark the divisions. (See map in text book and page 18 in "Asiatic Turkey.")

Topic 2. The next speaker should locate and describe our eight colleges, telling the number of students and a few interesting facts concerning their location and prospects. These should be grouped in the form of a chart on a large sheet of paper and hung at the front of the room. Offer an earnest proof that these colleges are the light-houses for this darkened land. Dwell on the particular needs of these institutions. (For material read pamphlet "Asiatic Turkey" and "European Turkey." See list on last page. Study the map in text book.)

Topic 3. Briefly locate with red cross flags our hospitals, asking if they are not worth supporting. Locate the three theological seminaries;

tell again the story of the recent Adana massacre of twenty-one pastors and preachers, comparing to the murder of four-fifths of the pastors of your State. (Material found in July and August numbers "Missionary Herald," "Congregationalist" of August 7th, Pearson's magazine for August and September, '09.)

IV. THE STATION PLAN.

Topic 4. Here we approach the climax of this series. This is the most important topic of all four programs. Have one of your most earnest speakers vividly describe the splendid work and the present condition of the *Central Turkey Mission* in which you are asked to take shares. Full details of this work will be sent on request from the Board with the other materials. This is where your money will go, and where you are asked to take up "YOUR OWN WORK" in that massacre-scourged region. If you are already supporting a share under the Station Plan, remain loyal to your own field. Do not swing over to Turkey. (See later pages of this pamphlet.)

V. "WHAT IS MY SHARE?"

Here the missionary chairman should take charge of the meeting. For those societies that need it, the new method of subscription per month to be paid in special envelopes furnished by the Board, is now fully explained and an appeal made to loyalty and sacrifice for the kingdom of Christ. Be optimistic. Show how much has been done and how much more can be done if we rally to the battle.

Have a long and earnest season of prayer, asking that we may all be eager to do our share with sacrifice for this "OUR OWN WORK." Pass the subscription cards; have them signed at this meeting. Tell the results to us in the Board at once, stating how much increase this means over last year. Follow up the meeting by having missionary committeemen call personally on the absent members going by twos. Lay the matter before them, and get their subscription. Announce the results at the next meeting and offer thanksgiving if a notable increase has been made.

VI. CLOSING SERVICE.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS.

The course as outlined demands earnest work on the part of the missionary committee or chosen leaders. No attempt is made to propose a plan which will run itself. In this, as in everything, we can gain our point only by the most painstaking preparation. Sometimes we forget, do we not, that our end of the work at home can no more be carried through without sacrifice and without intelligence and pains, than can the foreign end of the missionary cause. We expect devotion and consecration on the part of our missionaries, let us render the same in presenting these plans to our societies. We labor for the Kingdom, not for ourselves. Even though we are busy in other lines of endeavor; even though this course will require study and time, nevertheless it is well worth it. Let us not fall short of our opportunity.

It will be much more effective to have all the participants at each meeting seated at the front facing the audience. This will be a decided change from the routine, and shows that something extra is expected. Notice the suggestion in Program Four for changing the seating. Any novelty of this kind will be of interest and you should suggest several others in addition to this here noted.

THE COMMITTEE should first meet to read over the entire plan as proposed in this pamphlet. If it appeals to you, decide to carry it through with enthusiasm. Half-hearted drifting, "hoping it will come out all right" will gain nothing. Either determine to swing it vigorously, or drop the entire matter.

First send to the Board for the package of material you decide to use. Notice the pages in the back of this pamphlet where the material is listed. It is urged that you get the package

for \$1 since the outline maps of "The Moslem World" and the pamphlets suggested will all be well worth their cost. While this course is running, urge everybody to talk the matter up as you meet the members. Make it the important feature while it lasts.

Your second task will be to choose the leaders for the four meetings. If you lack good material, your best leaders might lead more than one meeting. The committee must stand behind the leaders of each meeting and the final responsibility for the success of the entire plan will always center in the missionary chairman. After the leaders are chosen and their consent secured, let the participants be carefully selected. All of these should then meet with the committee to go over the entire scheme, fitting each part into the whole. At this time, warn those who take topics, against speaking over their time, and especially urge all to handle their assignments with snap and vigor. We want to avoid listlessness and that lack of "ginger" that is so often evident in our meetings.

THE LEADER should, of course, know something about all the assignments in his lesson so that he could take one or more in case of the sickness or absence of the speaker. Go over each assignment with the person chosen, so that there can be no failure to understand just what each is to do. Urge each participant to read over this entire portion of the book within which his topic falls, so as to feel the background. Do not get caught in details. When one is to review a few centuries of history in five minutes, aim to give just a sweeping impression and nothing more. It will sometimes be best to let one speaker introduce the speaker who is to follow and thus vary the monotony of having each one introduced by the leader. Always introduce the topic and not the

speaker. Be sure that these joints in the program are well oiled and will run smoothly. Condense the opening exercises to the last degree. Keep to your time-table. Do not let a speaker go over time. He must be politely but firmly told to stop. Give him one minute warning. Do not let the first speakers eat into the share of the last. The important topic is usually the closing one. As the preparation approaches its conclusion, have an earnest meeting with every participant present. Arrange your schedule, knowing just how much time each is to take and have an earnest season of prayer so that each member will feel the responsibility of arousing the society through this one program. At each lesson, urge the members who are in the Reading Circle to read faithfully the "chapter a day." The reading follows the programs but roughly. You therefore want to keep the interest in the reading at concert pitch.

THE PARTICIPANTS will be instructed in detail by the leader, but these few hints may be useful. We want these programs to be the keenest and most interesting that you have known in your society. Each one therefore must enter into the spirit of the entire scheme. Try to work novelty and attractiveness into all that you say. Do not merely give dry facts but add the element of humor when possible and make the whole thing go with a rush. Above all, do not read your paper. Write out at home, if you desire, but when you stand up to speak, face your audience and address them in a bright and wide-awake manner. Do not merely read your topic over and "trust to luck" to tell it properly, but prepare an outline and choose even the very words in which you are to speak. Try to lift these programs out of the ordinary. Plead for the cause of missions as though you alone were its champion.

III. The Station Plan Subscription.

The series of studies ends with a subscription for "*Your own work*" under the "Station Plan." Many societies are already shareholders, others are committed to lines of giving through the Woman's Boards. These pledges must be scrupulously kept, and there is no intention on our part of receiving gifts to their loss. Such societies can use this opportunity for renewing and increasing their regular subscriptions if they so desire, but two or three points should be emphasized for the consideration of every missionary committee reading these words.

1. The American Board does not ask you to warp your giving in our direction. We are asking for our share only, believing that one of the most important issues now before our churches is the "Apportionment Plan." We would approve all our young people being trained to understand and uphold this critical issue of our denominational life, and though our treasury may lose something through this disinterestedness, yet we urge the missionary committee to relate your giving to the regular channels and to the fixed apportionment of your church. Help the pastor and the church by your offerings to reach the full sums apportioned. *Every subscription under this plan is given full credit to the apportionment of your church.*

2. On the other hand, we urge the tremendous needs of our missions as the reason for asking you to send to the Board, its full share of your gifts. Last year, 1,882 societies sent us absolutely nothing. If you were in that number, this ought to be a call to take up the full portion of your work under the Board. "*Our own Board's first*" will be a necessary watch-cry if our churches are to reach the sums apportioned. Let me repeat the story of the hen.

"A farmer had a prize hen. She was the champion layer of the country, but she never laid two eggs in the same place. Once under the hedge, once in the haymow, once in his hat in the parlor. When she came to set only one egg could be found." Some of us are the hen. We give liberally but perhaps we are scattering things a bit. At least some one is, and he is in the majority.

3. The chief object of this plan is to deal a blow at the "casual collection" as a method of raising funds. In these days when every effort must be made to keep the home end from lagging behind in the missionary enterprise, we must use adequate up-to-date methods. There can be little excuse for the continuance of obsolete and ineffective plans when better are brought to your notice. The Laymen's Missionary Movement in their national campaign are urging the point with strenuous emphasis that our missionary money should be raised by a definite and business-like subscription. The "offering" all too often receives the spare change in one's pocket at the moment, while the subscription method makes for a conscientious, regular, definite, and increasing result. So we urge you to raise the benevolent budget of your society by having your members subscribe a definite amount to be contributed in envelopes, monthly or weekly as you think best. Account should be kept by a benevolent secretary and those in arrears should be reminded once a quarter. Let me plead with you then to use the closing part of program IV to raise one or more shares in the Station Plan as urged by our Board.

A CRY OF DISTRESS FROM TURKEY.

4. The money raised among the young people at this time as the result of these studies will go to the support of the Central Turkey Mission.

For several years, the general appropriation for the work of that entire mission has been \$2,412 over and above the salaries of the missionaries. The Prudential Committee has assigned to the young people this amount as our first aim. When we have raised that amount, we are going to try to rebuild some of these destroyed churches. Once they were independent, self supporting and strong, with well educated native pastors in charge. As the result of this last terrible slaughter, these churches have been almost wiped out, their pastors slain. We must therefore leap into the gap and by our generous offerings lift a portion of their burden. In the name of the young people of our churches, we are asking the Prudential Committee to assign to us all the sums which they will appropriate this fall for the reconstruction of the work in Central Turkey. In this "Station Plan," we will send you quarterly report letters from the work of the particular station where your money goes. You come to know the missionary in this pleasant and personal way, you will also be kept in touch with the entire work of the Central Turkey Mission, with its schools, hospital and smoking ruins of churches.

Try to commit your society to a definite sum and let us together strive to answer the prayers of the friends of this suffering mission through the increasing interest and devotion of the young people of all our churches. May God help you to do your part. One last word. If you are already shareholders in some other station, do not try to swing over to Turkey. It is neither just nor wise. Stand loyally by your own field and we will study their particular needs later. This plan is especially meant for the 1,882 societies who now send us nothing.

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